Funding agricultural research for increasing food productivity

1816. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether agricultural research is paving the way for second green revolution, but agriculture today suffers from lack of fund and low productivity;

(b) if so, what are the main steps Government propose to take to fund the agriculture sector;

(c) whether any concrete action-plan has been prepared for improving the food productivity; and

(d) what are the details of the same and by what time it would be launched?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) Sustained agricultural development and increasing the profitability of farmers is the major focus of research under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). This includes development of hybrids and high yielding varieties alongwith associated production and protection technology, improving soil health and enhancing input use efficiency. Recently, Indian Council of Agricultural Research has launched the National Agricultural Innovation Project with an outlay of about Rs. 1200 crores. Further, a project on "Seed Production in Agricultural Crops and Fisheries" with an outlay of Rs. 198.89 crores is in operation to enhance the production of quality seeds, planting materials, fingerlings etc. For development of transgenics in crops, initiatives have been taken through launching a Network Project with an outlay of 32.85 crores. Efforts has also been made for conducting basic and strategic research through a number of network projects such as gene pyramiding, molecular breeding, diagnostics etc. In addition, a National fund for basic and strategic research in agricultural sciences to build capacity and for supporting research has also been launched.

MSP for Paddy

†1817. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal to offer more than 8 per cent of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

minimum support price for Government procurement of kharif crop paddy is under Government's consideration;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the reasons for Government's this 8 per cent extra offer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) A proposal to purchase foodgrains at a rate higher than the Minimum Support Price (MSP) has been formulated in the Department of Food & Public Distribution, to ensure that the required quantity of foodgrains are procured to meet the commitments under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and other foodgrains based welfare schemes.

Contribution of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries

1818. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the contribution of animal husbandry, dairying and fisheries in the Ninth and Tenth Five Year Plans in gross domestic product;

(b) the plan allocation to each in these plans; and

(c) the reasons for merely increasing Rs. 155.36 crore in the Tenth Plan in comparison to the Ninth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) The contribution of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries in the Ninth and Tenth Five Year Plans is given as per Statement (*See* below).

(b) The Plan allocation to each of these during 9th and 10th Plans is as follows:

(Rs. in crore)

Plan	AH	Dairy	Fishery
9th Plan	772.02	251.95	649.53
10th Plan	1384.00	361.00	740.00

(c) Against the Ninth Plan allocation of Rs. 2345.64 crore, a total BE of Rs. 1682.95 crore was actually earmarked to the Department of Animal